

Message Text

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43

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 L-03 AID-20 IGA-02 MC-02 DODE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 EB-11 DRC-01 /074 W

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R 131030Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1477

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 423

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID

SUBJECT: GOS QUERY REGARDING AVAILABILITY OF SURPLUS HELI-
COPTER AIRFRAME

1. DIRECTOR CIVIL AVIATION HAS APPROACHED CONSULATE INFORMALLY TO ENQUIRE RE AVAILABILITY OF ONE SURPLUS HELICOPTER AIRFRAME WHICH SUITABLE FOR CONVERSION INTO S-58T AIRCRAFT. DCA UNDERSTANDS THERE ARE A NUMBER OF SURPLUS H-34'S AT DAVIS MONTHAN AFB AND HOPES THAT ONE COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR NOMINAL PRICE OR PERHAPS GRATIS. WE TOLD DCA THAT WE WOULD FORWARD ENQUIRY BUT WOULD TAKE NO OTHER ACTION UNTIL WE RECEIVED FORMAL GOS REQUEST.

2. IF SURPLUS AIRFRAME CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO GOS, DCA WOULD HAVE IT CONVERTED INTO S-58T AT UNITED AIRCRAFT PLANT IN STRATFORD, CONN. THIS WOULD ENABLE GOS TO OBTAIN AN AIRCRAFT SUITED TO NEEDS OF COUNTRY, AT PRICE IT CAN AFFORD. AIRCRAFT WOULD BE OWNED AND OPERATED BY GOS-OWNED AIRLINE SLM AND USED FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS, INCLUDING EMERGENCY LIFE SAVING MISSIONS IN INTERIOR OF WHICH THERE IS FREQUENT NEED. CRAFT WOULD ALSO BE LEASED COMMERCIALY TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND PRIVATE COMPANIES TO SUPPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN INTERIOR.

3. ON FACE OF IT, PROJECT LOOKS WORTHWHILE. FINANCING COSTS OF ACQUISITION WOULD PROBABLY COME OUT OF DUTCH DEVELOPMENT FUNDS AND THERE SEEMS TO BE GOOD PROBABILITY THAT AIRCRAFT

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WOULD PAY FOR ITS UPKEEP. MAINTENANCE AND SPARE PARTS PRO-

BLEMS WOULD BE SIMPLIFIED BY FACT THAT S-58T UTILIZES SAME
ENGINES AS THOSE EMPLOYED BY SLM'S TWIN OTTERS.

4. POST RECOMMENDS THAT APPROPRIATE AGENCIES ATTEMPT TO MAKE
SURPLUS AIRFRAME AVAILABLE ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS. PROJECT
ANSWERS A NEED IN SURINAM, SEEMS SENSIBLE AND WOULD GENERATE
SOME GOOD WILL FOR U.S.

JOHNSTON

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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